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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Imaizumi et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 10/023,711

Examiner: Fronda

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1460

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING  
SUBSTANCE BY  
FERMENTATION

VIA FACSIMILE TO: 703 872 9306

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 20, 2004, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.